

Pioneers in eGovernment

our Mission

As the official gateway of Kansas, we are committed to providing citizens, businesses and governments with efficient online access to government.



1990

Kansas legislation passed authorizing the beginning of the Information Network of Kansas, Inc. (INK) (K.S.A. 74-9302)

1991

INK awards network manager contract to Kansas Information Consortium, Inc. (now a subsidiary of the National Information Consortium, Inc.). INK begins eGovernment operations.

1994

INK offers a wide array of electronic services to a diverse customer base including legislative services, legal services, banking services, and educational services.

"In these times of change, eGovernment is becoming a standard in which Kansans can interact with government. Nearly ten years ago, the state of Kansas had a vision. . . Today that vision is a reality, and the reality is eGovernment in Kansas through accessKansas, a service of the Information Network of Kansas."

Governor Bill Graves

That pioneering spirit turned into reality and Kansas became the "birthplace of eGovernment." The creation of the Information Network of Kansas, Inc. (INK), made this happen.

In the beginning, INK faced many challenges, but desire and vision were the motivation that led to the provision of early services such as electronic mail and electronic access to motor vehicle records to the citizens, businesses, and governments of the state of Kansas.

With an eye on the future, the founders of INK began building an information service for the citizens of Kansas, with a strong focus on the principles upon which American government was founded — serving the people. The service embarked upon over ten years ago is now recognized as **accessKansas**, a service of the Information Network of Kansas (www.accessKansas.org).

With no state funds available for the start-up and maintenance of accessKansas, a small group of people set out to create a successful model for a subscriber fee-based service with the desired goal of creating a self-sufficient, eGovernment platform. This model has been maintained for ten years and is the epitome of a "self-funding" public/private partnership recognized worldwide. To date, over ninety percent of the information offered on the Kansas portal remains free of charge, while only ten percent is fee-based.

All innovations start with an idea. However, an idea alone is not enough. It takes an entrepreneurial spirit combined with hard work and determination to make that idea a reality. Take Kansas' courageous ancestors who pioneered the Great Plains. They knew firsthand about hard work and determination and their pioneering spirit remains alive in the citizens of Kansas, even today.

It is this pioneering spirit that guided a group of Kansas legislators and private entrepreneurs, both with the common mission of making Kansas government work for the people, to ask a radical question . . .

"How can we bring government to the people of Kansas?"





The first service provided in 1991 was an e-mail service for subscribers. Other services were delivered specifically to meet the needs of an ever-growing computerized government and business audience.

Early state partners of accessKansas included the Kansas Department of Revenue and the banking and legal communities in the state. By 1992, accessKansas users could access a variety of motor vehicle records, including drivers' license records, vehicle title and registration and lien information. By 1994, accessKansas was offering a variety of services, and had partnered with numerous state agencies. It was quickly becoming apparent that the opportunities for eGovernment expansion were as broad and brilliant as the Kansas skies, and accessKansas was helping the State of Kansas pioneer these opportunities into everyday solutions for Kansas citizens.

In 1995, the Internet was becoming commonplace with citizens, businesses and universities. As more and more Kansans used the Web, accessKansas was quick to see the potential of an online presence for Kansas government. accessKansas launched the official state Web site for Kansas on January 1, 1996. Kansas was now at the forefront in establishing new ways to access government by having one of the first state sites in the United States.

In 2001, Kansas continued to be at the forefront of eGovernment by launching numerous new and varied Web-based applications such as online professional license renewals and license verifications. One unique application, Equus Beds Information Service, incorporated interactive mapping (GIS) technologies utilized by the Kansas Department of Health and Environment, to help citizens identify potentially polluted groundwater. The frontiers are endless—only the landscape and technologies have changed.

accessKansas maintains the same pioneering spirit and focus today: to deliver state-of-the-art eGovernment solutions to the citizens of Kansas. With more than ten strong years of partnership with the state of Kansas, now chronicled as the "birthplace of eGovernment," accessKansas looks forward to another decade of pioneering eGovernment for the citizens, businesses and governments of the state of Kansas.



1996

INK launches state Web portal for Kansas.

1999

Hunting and fishing licenses are made available through a new online service.

2000

INK launches new state portal with a new brand name: **accessKansas**.
www.accessKansas.org

2001

Professional license renewals, verifications, UCC filing, and other business and citizen-centric applications become available to Kansans.



A service of the INFORMATION NETWORK OF KANSAS, INC.

Ten years of pioneering
the future of eGovernment:

***“Your government
online...anytime.”***

www.accessKansas.org